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Claims

1. A fibre having a plurality of regions printed on front and rear sides of said fibre, wherein said regions are
5 coloured and the colours are visible only under ultra-violet light.
2. A fibre as claimed in claim 1, wherein said regions are striped regions and said striped regions include two or more
10 differently coloured striped regions.
3. A fibre as claimed in claim 2, wherein said striped regions are placed at about 1mm gradations.
- 15 4. A fibre as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein the coloured striped regions appear in the same order in a repeating pattern.
5. A fibre as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein said
20 fibre comprises only two striped regions, the first striped region having a first colour and the second striped region having a second colour.
6. A fibre as claimed in claim 5, wherein each of said
25 striped regions covers half of said fibre.
7. A fibre as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein said striped regions include three or more differently coloured striped regions.
- 30 8. A fibre as claimed in claim 1, wherein the regions are arranged in a pseudo-random pattern.

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9. A fibre as claimed in claim 1 or claim 8, wherein said regions include two differently coloured regions.
10. A fibre as claimed in claim 9, wherein said fibre
5 comprises only two regions.
11. A fibre as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of said regions covers half of said fibre.
- 10 12. A fibre as claimed in claim 1 or claim 8, wherein said regions include three or more differently coloured regions.
13. A fibre as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the regions are printed such that regions on the front and rear
15 sides are in register with one another and have the same colour.
14. A fibre as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the regions abut one another with no overlap of colour at the
20 boundaries of the regions.
15. A fibre as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the fibre is cut from a larger fibre.
- 25 16. A fibre as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein a varnish is applied to the outer surface of the fibre.
17. A fibre as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the fibre is manufactured from tissue paper.
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18. A method of manufacturing a fibre, the method comprising the steps of printing a plurality of regions on front and rear sides of said fibre, wherein said regions are coloured and the colours are visible only under ultra-violet light.

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19. A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said regions are striped regions and said striped regions include two or more differently coloured striped regions.

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20. A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said striped regions are placed at about 1mm gradations.

21. A method as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20 and further comprising the step of printing the plurality of coloured striped regions in the same order in a repeating pattern.

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22. A method as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said fibre comprises only two striped regions, the first striped region having a first colour and the second striped region having a second colour.

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23. A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein each of said striped regions covers half of said fibre.

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24. A method as claimed in any one of claims 19 to 21; wherein said striped regions include three or more differently coloured striped regions.

25. A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the regions are arranged in a pseudo-random pattern.

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26. A method as claimed in claim 18 or claim 25, wherein said regions include two differently coloured regions.

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27. A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said fibre comprises only two regions.

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28. A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein each of said regions covers half of said fibre.

29. A method as claimed in claim 18 or claim 25, wherein
5 said regions include three or more differently coloured regions.

30. A method as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 29,
wherein the regions are printed such that regions on the
10 front and rear sides are in register with one another and have the same colour.

31. A method as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 30,
wherein the regions abut one another with no overlap of
15 colour at the boundaries of the regions.

32. A method as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 31,
wherein the fibre is cut from a larger fibre.

20 33. A method as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 32,
wherein the method further comprises the step of applying a varnish to the outer surface of the fibre.

25 34. A method as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 33,
wherein the fibre is manufactured from tissue paper.

35. A method of manufacturing a paper product, the method comprising the steps of:

30 mixing one or more fibres as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17 or one or more fibres manufactured using the method of any one of claims 18 to 34 with slurry paper pulp such that the fibres form a hydrogen bond with the cellulose fibre in the paper pulp; and

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forming the paper pulp and fibre mix into a continuous web of paper.

36. A paper product containing a plurality of fibres as
5 claimed in any one of claims 1 to 17 or manufactured using
the method of any one of claims 18 to 34.

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